

# Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victims in Indiana

## 2016 Indiana Crime Victimization Survey

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### Introduction

In 2017, the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI), with the assistance of Glengariff Group, Inc., conducted its second Indiana Crime Victimization Survey (ICVS). The survey was modeled after the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. The ICVS is intended to supplement the data collected in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. The FBI collects national data of police arrests and crimes reported to the police. Currently, Indiana law enforcement agencies are not mandated to report to the UCR Program. Further, many crimes are never reported to the police. ICVS provides an additional measure of crime and victimization in Indiana.

The exact number of domestic violence and sexual assault victims in Indiana is unknown due to unreported crimes and reporting requirements for the UCR. The UCR does not have a category for domestic violence and the crime is commonly reported as an assault, thus, making it difficult to ascertain the number of domestic violence-related assaults. UCR does have a category for rape, which includes attempts or assaults to commit rape. Other crimes of a sexual nature are recorded in the sexual offense category and only arrest data are reported for those crimes. Since many of these crimes go unreported, UCR data would not be enough to determine the number of victims.

### Highlights

- 1 in 33 individuals, were victims of domestic violence during 2016.
- 10.5% of domestic violence victims experienced domestic violence on a daily or weekly basis.
- 65% of domestic violence victims did not report any incidents to police.
- 67% of domestic violence victims were also victims of stalking and 26% were victims of at least one sex crime.
- 94% of rape victims knew the offender. 81% did not report to law enforcement
- 69% of victims of drug or alcohol induced rape knew the offender. 94% of victims did not report it to law enforcement.
- 76% of victims of unwanted sexual activity (grabbing, fondling). 89% of these victims did not report any unwanted sexual activity incident to law enforcement.

### Methodology

ICJI commissioned the Glengariff Group, Inc. (Glengariff) to administer the Indiana Crime Victimization Survey of 2,500 Indiana residents, ages 18 and older. The instrument was designed to obtain respondent data on criminal victimization and victim demographics that would generalize to Indiana's total population. Glengariff contacted individuals via cell phone

and landline telephone by random digit dialing. To obtain an accurate representation of the Indiana adult population, Glengariff stratified the survey respondents by gender, age, and ethnicity (Hispanic/Latino) based on 2013 population estimates from United States Census Bureau. Further, Indiana counties were stratified and categorized into seven geographical regions. Proportionate stratified random sampling is a survey sampling methodology used to ensure that the sample population is representative of the entire population; post-stratification weighting is, therefore, not required. The number of respondents needed to complete the survey in each county was determined by the county's percentage of Indiana's total population. The survey had a margin of error of +/- 1.96% with a 95% level of confidence.

Participants were asked if they, and in some cases if a member of their household, were a victim of 17 different crimes during 2016. The survey sought out prevalence level data only. Respondents were asked if they experienced at least one victimization for the 17 different crimes in 2016. Crimes included property crime (burglary, three motor vehicle theft crimes, property theft, and vandalism), violent crime (rape, substance-induced rape, other sexual assault, domestic violence, physical assault, aggravated physical assault, and robbery), stalking and intimidation, and identity theft (credit card, other financial account, and personal information). Respondents who experienced at least one victimization were asked follow-up questions, including if they notified the police after at least one incident and their relationship to the offender(s) during at least one of the incidents. This report will focus on the survey findings for domestic violence and sexual assault.

## Domestic Violence

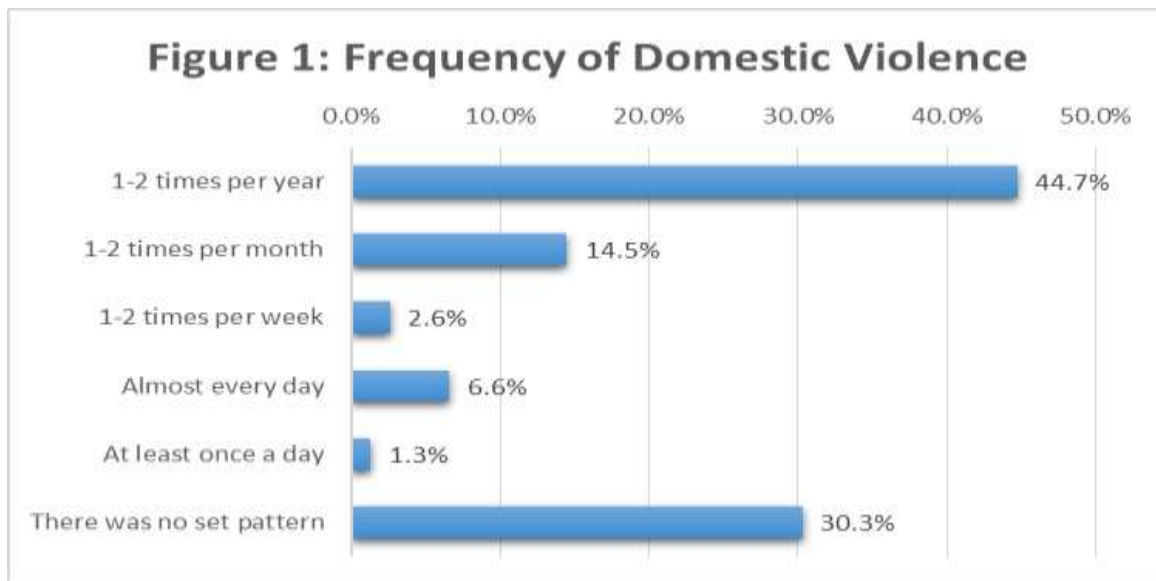
Indiana Crime Victimization Survey respondents were asked questions about domestic violence including various types of physical violence, threats of violence, frequency of violence, whether any of the incidents were reported to police and, if not, why the crime was not reported. The respondents were asked if a current or former spouse, partner or significant other had ever done the following during 2016: *slap, punch, kick or push you, intentionally hit you with an object, use a weapon such as a gun or knife against you, threaten you with violence or threaten to kill you, or did they do anything else like that?*

Of the 2,500 survey participants, 3% indicated they had experienced some form of domestic violence in the last year. This translates to a 1 in 33 rate of victimization among respondents. Of those who indicated domestic violence, over half (57.9%) were male, 42.1% were female. The most common form of domestic violence reported was being slapped, punched, kicked, or pushed (77.6%), followed by threats of violence (52.6%). Over half (56%) experienced two or more of the listed abuses, with less than 1% experiencing all of the listed abuses.

Table 1: Forms of Domestic Violence Experienced by Respondents

At any time during 2016, did a current or former spouse, partner or significant other (multiple responses permitted)	Percent of Yes responses
Slap, punch, kick or push you	77.6
Hit you with an object	34.2
Use a weapon against you	13.2
Threaten with violence or to kill you	52.6

The respondents were asked how often they experienced any of the domestic violence incidents. The largest portion of victims, 44.7%, sustained domestic violence 1 to 2 times a year, 30.3% experienced no set pattern of abuse, 14.5% experienced it 1 to 2 times per month, 6.6% incurred abuse daily, and 2.6% experienced abuse on a weekly basis (See Figure 1). Nearly 29% of respondents also stated the abuse increased in frequency or severity during 2016.



The majority of victims (65.8%) did not report any of the incidents to police, while 17% of respondents reported all of the incidents, and 15.8% reported a few to most of the incidents to police. The individuals who did not report the crime to law enforcement provided various reasons (Table 2). The most common response, at 48.4%, for not reporting to police *was believed it was a private or personal matter and police didn't need to be involved*, followed by *felt the offense was minor or not important* at 41.9%. Overall, there was little difference among the reporting of domestic violence incidents between males and females.

Table 2. Reasons for Not Reporting Domestic Violence to Police

Why did you not report the crime to the police? (multiple responses permitted)	Percent
Believed the police would not be able to do anything or would be inefficient	21.0
Did not want to get the offender in trouble	24.2
Feared the offender or others	12.9
Felt the offense was minor or not important	41.9
Did not know the incident was a crime	1.6
Believed it was a private or personal matter and police didn't need to be involved	48.4
Don't Know	4.8
Refused	1.6

Domestic violence victimization was found among all age groups, with persons ages 25 to 34 (50 percent) comprising the most number of victims, followed by 35 to 44 year olds at 23.7% of the total victims. Domestic violence was lowest among older survey respondents with persons ages 55 and older accounting for 11.8% of the total individuals. Nearly 80% of respondents were Caucasian, and 7.9% were African-American. Just under 8% identified as Hispanic. The educational levels for victims were split almost evenly among college graduates (28.9%) and those with high school diploma/GED (25%). Just over 55% of respondents reported an income of \$49,999 or less, 25% reported incomes between \$50,000 - \$99,999 and 8% of respondents reported an income of \$100,000 or higher. See Table 3 for more information on domestic violence victim characteristics.

Several of the survey respondents who indicated domestic violence also reported being victims of other crimes. Two-thirds, or 67%, experienced some form of stalking during 2016. Of those respondents, 55% were stalked by their current or former spouse or partner. Nearly one in ten (9.2%) respondents stated they were raped during 2016, and 13.2% were victims of a drug/alcohol induced rape. Only one individual reported the offense to police. A total of 6 individuals indicated that the current or former spouse or partner was the offender. About one in five (22.4%) domestic violence victims responded that they were victims of other unwanted sexual activity. Other crimes experienced by domestic violence victims included identity theft, robbery, assault and property crimes.

Table 3. Characteristics of Respondents who Experienced Domestic Violence

Victim Characteristics	Percent
Gender	
Male	57.9
Female	42.1
Age	
18-24	7.9
25-34	50.0
35-44	23.7
45-54	15.8
55-64	9.2
65+	2.6
Refused	1.3
Race	
African American/Black	7.9
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.0
Asian	0.0
Caucasian/White	78.9
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.0
Two or more races	6.6
Other	3.9
No answer	2.6
Ethnicity	

Victim Characteristics	Percent
Hispanic	7.9
Not Hispanic	92.1
Educational Attainment	
Less than high school diploma	5.3
High school diploma/GED	25.0
Some college	17.1
Technical/Vocational school	6.6
Associate degree	11.8
College graduate	28.9
Post graduate work	5.3
Income	
Less than \$10,000	5.3
\$10,000 to \$29,999	21.0
\$30,000 to \$49,999	23.7
\$50,000 to \$74,999	19.7
\$75,000 to \$99,999	5.3
\$100,000 and more	7.9
Refused	11.8

### Rape and Unwanted Sexual Contact

Survey respondents were asked a series of questions regarding forced or unwanted sexual acts. Respondents were identified as victims if they answered *Yes* to one or more of the following questions:

- “During 2016, did anyone force you or attempt to force you to engage in any form of unwanted sexual intercourse including vaginal, oral or anal by using violence, the threat of violence, verbal threats or the use of a weapon?”
- “During 2016, did you experience any unwanted sexual contact, including sexual intercourse, that you were unable to give consent for because you were under the influence of drugs or alcohol that was consumed either voluntarily or given to you without your knowledge?”
- “During 2016, have you ever been subjected to unwanted sexual activity such as grabbing, fondling, touching or kissing?”

Of the 2,500 respondents 16, or 0.6%, experienced at least one incident of the use of force or threat of violence or the use of a weapon to engage in unwanted sexual intercourse, hereafter referred to as rape. The same number reported being a victim of forced sexual activity while under the influence of drugs or alcohol at least once in 2016. Seven respondents reported *Yes* to both questions about rape and unwanted sexual activity involving drugs or alcohol. It is possible the responses referred to the same incident or they could have been separate crimes. There is not enough information available to make that determination since the survey was only asking if a

person had been a victim of a crime and did not ask the number of incidents. Nearly 2%, or 45, of the respondents were the victim of unwanted sexual activity.

The majority of victims knew the perpetrator of at least one incident. Nearly 94% of the rape victims, 69% of drugs or alcohol induced rape victims, and 75.5% of victims of unwanted sexual activity knew the assailant in at least one incident. Among individuals who knew the offender, the current or former spouse or significant other was identified as the assailant of at least one rape in 47% of rape victims, followed by a non-family member that was well known to the individual at 20% and casual acquaintance at 13%. For drug or alcohol related rapes, casual acquaintance was the most common offender of at least one rape at 36.4% followed by current or former spouse/significant other at 27.3%. In unwanted sexual contact victims, the main offender was the current or former spouse/significant in at least one incident at 38% and casual acquaintance at 35.3% (Table 4).

Table 4. Relationship of Victim to Known Offender

Victim/Offender Relationship	Percent of Respondents		
	Rape	Drug/Alcohol Induced Rape	Unwanted Sexual Contact
Current or former spouse/significant other	46.7	27.3	38.2
Family member (parent, child, sibling, etc.)	6.7	9.1	2.9
A person well known, but not a family member	20.0	18.2	23.5
Casual acquaintance	13.3	36.4	35.3
Someone you seen around, but don't know	6.7	9.1	0.0
No answer	6.7	0.0	0.0

The rate of reporting to law enforcement was low for each type of sex crime. Nearly 19% of rape victims reported at least one instance of the crime to police. Only 6% reported at least one drug or alcohol related rape to police, and 11% reported unwanted sexual contact. The victims who did not report to law enforcement for at least one sexual assault stated they did not do so for multiple reasons (Table 5). For victims of rape and drug or alcohol induced rape the main reason for not reporting to police was *believed the police would not be able to do anything or would be inefficient* at 42.6% and 40% respectively. Just over 46% of victims of unwanted sexual contact cited *felt the offense was minor or not important* as the main reason for not reporting any sexual assault crime to law enforcement.

Table 5. Reasons for Not Reporting Sexual Assault to Police

Why did you not report the crime to the police? (multiple responses permitted)	Percent of Respondents		
	Rape	Drug/Alcohol Induced Rape	Unwanted Sexual Contact
Believed the police would not be able to do anything or would be inefficient	46.2	40.0	30.8
Did not want to get the offender in trouble	7.7	13.3	17.9
Feared the offender or others	30.8	20.0	15.4
Felt the offense was minor or not important	15.4	6.7	46.2

Did not know the incident was a crime	0.0	6.7	7.7
Did not find out about it right away	7.7	6.7	2.6
Believed it was a private or personal matter and police didn't need to be involved	7.7	33.3	38.5
Or was it something else?	7.7	6.7	2.6

For all types of sexual crimes, more female survey respondents than male respondents indicated being the victim of rape or unwanted contact. Seventy-five percent of rape victims, 62.5% of drug or alcohol influenced rape victims, and 68.9% of the victims of unwanted sexual contact respondents were female. Individuals aged 25-34 years old accounted for the highest percentage among all the sex crime victims, with the majority of drug or alcohol induced rape victims (62.5%) falling into this category. The 65 and older age group had the lowest percentage of sexual assault victims. The majority of victims for each sex offense were Caucasian, followed by individuals who were two or more races. Hispanic individuals and those who are two or more races were overrepresented compared to the general population of the survey respondents. Hispanics constituted 5.6% of the total survey respondents but represented 12.5% of rape, 6.3% of drug or alcohol induced rape, and 11.1% of unwanted sexual contact victims. Individuals who reported being two or more races represented 2.6% of total survey respondents. However, 18.8% of rape, 12.5% of drug or alcohol induced rape, and 11.1% of unwanted sexual contact victims were two or more races.

Victims were distributed fairly evenly across the different income levels. None of the victims of drug or alcohol induced rape were married, but 37.5% were in a relationship. The educational level for the majority of victims was some college; 56.4% of rape, 75% of drug or alcohol induced rape, and 49% of unwanted sexual contact victims had a college degree. Most victims were either single or married/in a relationship. (See Table 6 for more information).

Table 6. Characteristics of Respondents who Experienced Sexual Assault

Victim Characteristics	Percent of Respondents		
	Rape	Drug/Alcohol Induced Rape	Unwanted Sexual Contact
Gender			
Male	25.0	37.5	31.1
Female	75.0	62.5	68.9
Age			
18-24	12.5	12.5	19.6
25-34	43.8	62.5	48.9
35-44	25.0	12.5	13.3
45-54	12.5	6.3	11.1
55-64	0.0	6.3	4.4
65+	6.3	0.0	2.2
Race			
African American/Black	6.3	0.0	6.7
American Indiana/Alaska Native	6.3	0.0	2.2

Victim Characteristics	Percent of Respondents		
	Rape	Drug/Alcohol Induced Rape	Unwanted Sexual Contact
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0
Caucasian/White	56.3	81.3	68.9
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0
Two or more races	18.8	12.5	11.1
Other	12.5	6.3	8.8
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Hispanic	12.5	6.3	11.1
Not Hispanic	87.5	93.7	88.9
<b>Educational Attainment</b>			
Less than high school	0.0	0.0	2.2
High School Diploma/GED	18.8	12.5	19.6
Some college	25.0	12.5	26.7
Technical/Vocational School	0.0	0.0	2.2
Associate degree	18.8	25.0	6.7
College degree	31.3	43.8	40.0
Post graduate degree	6.3	6.3	2.2
<b>Income</b>			
Less than \$10,000	12.5	6.3	12.5
\$10,000 to \$29,999	18.8	12.5	15.5
\$30,000 to \$49,999	12.5	37.5	17.8
\$50,000 to \$74,999	25.0	25.0	22.2
\$75,000 to \$99,999	12.5	6.3	13.3
\$100,000 and more	0.0	6.3	8.8
Refused	18.8	6.3	15.5
<b>Relationship Status</b>			
Single	50.0	37.5	35.6
In a relationship w/partner	25.0	43.8	37.8
Married	18.8	12.5	22.2
Divorced	0.0	6.3	2.2
Separated	6.3	0.0	2.2
Widowed	0.0	0.0	0.0



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